

Colonel Andres Kelly
District Engineer
Department of the Army
Jacksonville District Corps of Engineers
Attn: Terry Hayes
Pensacola Permits Section
41 North Jefferson Street, Suite 301
Pensacola, Florida 32502

Subject: SAJ-2011-00551, Ridge Road Extension, Pasco County

Dear Colonel Kelly,

This letter is in response to the public notice for application number SAJ-2011-00551, Ridge Road Extension submitted by Pasco County Board of Commissioners and Florida Turnpike Enterprise, published on September 25, 2018. The Ridge Road Extension was previously noticed by the Corps on November 28, 2011. In EPA letters dated January 27, 2012, and February 21, 2012, EPA listed our interests regarding the aquatic resources of national importance (ARNI) and the project not complying with the 404(b)(1) Guidelines. EPA's interests included the need for a valid jurisdictional determination and Uniform Mitigation Assessment Methodology, a complete alternatives analysis, minimization of road impacts, and a compensatory mitigation plan that complies with the 2008 Compensatory Mitigation Rule.

The EPA believes that the project, as proposed in the September 28, 2018, public notice would no longer have a substantial and unacceptable impact on ARNI and removes the project from potential elevation under the 1992 404(q) Memorandum of Agreement Part IV.

We greatly appreciate the work the Applicant and the Corps completed since the 2012 public notice. Please contact Cynthia Van Der Wiele of my staff at Van_Der_Wiele.Cynthia@epa.gov] or (404)562-9408 for any further information.

Sincerely,

Onis "Trey" Glenn, III
Regional Administrator